

CITY OF SIERRA VISTA
COMMISSION ON CULTURAL DIVERSITY
Regular Meeting of January 25, 2016
Oscar Yrun Community Center, Conference Room
3020 E. Tacoma St., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

CALL TO ORDER

Gail Houston called the meeting of the Commission on Cultural Diversity to order 5:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: AJ Biami Frances Micheau
 Sigrid Limtiaco Chrysti Lassiter-Jones
 Gail Houston Shaundra Sanders
 Janet Pressler

STAFF LIAISON PRESENT: Lee Elaban

COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: Gwen Calhoun

OTHERS PRESENT: Deborah Aponte, Associate Member
 Chris Swan, Coordinator Leisure Services
 Cindy Morales, Buena High School
 Tuey ~~Tw~~i Tomko, member of Vietnamese community

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Shaundra made a motion to accept the agenda as written.

AJ seconded the motion.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF November 23, 2015

AJ made a motion to accept the minutes as written.

Shaundra seconded the motion.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

STAFF LIAISON'S REPORT

- Lee told the members that the budget process has begun early. He will be asking for funding for this commission as well as Sister Cities. He suggested that the commission still look for additional funding sources to help offset the cost of next year's expenses.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

- Gwen told the commission about the latest info from the city council including the budget process and encouraged public input from the commission and anyone they may know and the task force that will be looking at the commissions and making recommendations to the council

about re-organizing or something of that sort. Her goal is to add value to what the commissions do. She spoke about some examples of that and that she heard the event Saturday was very well done and appreciated. And as always, please contact her if you have anything that the council needs to hear or know about.

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS/REPORT

- Gail had no report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion with Chris Swan and Laura Killberg re: Heritage Fair issues

- The 2016 Heritage Fair is on April 9th. Chris said so far she has 6 countries confirmed and the Mexican consulate and the dancers from Cananea. She has left messages for everyone else and is hoping to hear back soon. Gail thinks that the parade of nations should have a representative announcing their country and what they are wearing. She also said that people who have a table should have priority to perform if they wish before someone from the outside who doesn't have a country table. Chris said that no one will be able to perform for longer than 5 minutes. Food vendors' tables are \$25 per 8x10 space, with a max of 2 spaces per country or group. There have been some complaints about one group going over that. This year the commission will be watching that more closely. There was a discussion of the logistics of this. Gail would like each commissioner to take turns at the entry table and MCing. Schedule will be done and available to pass out that day. Gail has letters for each member to give to prospective donors. Gail asked Lee to make a listing of the raffle donations for the door and table. Frances said that all donations must be received one week prior to the event, no later than March 31st, preferably by March 28th at the meeting.

2. Discussion with Ms. Jacqui Clay (BHS) on their Community Culture events and our Cultural Heritage Celebration/Fair

- Cindy Morales came to speak to the members about their program and how they can assist with the fair. She told the members about the events and handed out a flyer that included the information from last October and will proceed through May. This is their trial year and they are looking for community input from the public and other interested citizens. She appreciated the commission members who have been attending and supporting this program.

3. Flyers and publicity for the Heritage Fair and small flyers to hand out

- Gail asked about the flyer. Chris told her that Donna is working on it but she wasn't available today. The commission would like the flyer to be the same as last year. Gail asked about small versions. AJ said that would be possible in the program that is used.

4. Listing of our commissioners and associates including their terms

- The new listing needs updates. AJ's term ends this April. Janet has to renew her membership this year. Everyone else is good to go until next year. Donna will revisit this next month.

5. Open Meeting Law Training for March 1 and March 3 at 5:00 pm

- Shaundra is already scheduled with Jill Adams. No one else is scheduled at this time.

6. Annual Commission presentation to City Council (mid-March)

- There was a discussion about the presentation. We don't have a date yet but Donna will email everyone as soon as we do.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion of 2016 Kickoff Brunch/Lunch

- Shaundra said that they had a really good time with great food. 15 people from 5 different commissions. She feels that for the first one this was a success. They each spoke about what each commission does and how they can support each other. They felt that this should be done each quarter and at the next one have an agenda. Gwen asked what the goal was – Shaundra explained that the goal is to find a way to work together and find a voice and support each other. They would like to meet again in March and it was great that the paper was there and published an article about the event. There was a brief discussion about communications.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

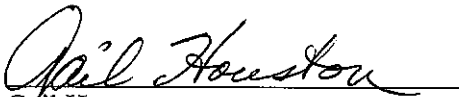
- Ms. Tomko spoke to the members. She told them that Gail invited her. She doesn't think that any Vietnamese members would be able to attend the fair since they work on Saturdays. Gwen suggested that maybe Cindy or Jacqui from Buena could get some of the students to help man a table at the event. There was a discussion about this having her at the meetings or other events.

CALL TO THE COMMISSION

- Shaundra wanted to discuss the next Meet and Greet next month. She also told everyone about the tailgate party on February 7th from 10am to 4pm at the Mall.
- AJ wanted to let the members know about the Amerind Native American Poetry field trip. He also told the members about their invitation to the Mayor's Arts and Humanities awards at the college on Sunday. And the college dance club is hosting a renowned dancer at the fitness center from 12-2 on February 6th. Cost is \$7.
- Christy, Frances, Janet and Sigrid had nothing this month.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.



Gail Houston
Chairperson, Commission on Cultural Diversity